New England Deaconess Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

pulse

VOLUME 23 — NUMBER 6 MARCH 1970

First Unit Manager Appointed

Service Coordination Takes On A Streamlined Look

Mr. Sante Breda, new Unit Manager for Palmer, checks the Patient Care Plan with Unit Secretary Peggy Boyer.

The Service Coordination Department, designed to relieve the nurses from the non-nursing tasks on the unit, has taken on a new streamlined look in the Palmer Building. The position of Unit Manager has been created to provide a broader range of supervision for the administrative, managerial and clerical duties previously carried out by the Unit Hostesses and Coordinators in Palmer. The responsibilities of the Unit Coordinator and the Hostess have been combined into one position — Unit Secretary. The position of Hostess has been phased out on three Palmer floors, while the former Unit Coordinators have assumed the new duties of the Unit Secretary. The department has literally taken on a new look with the recent move to their new quarters on Deaconess II.

Mr. Sante Breda, a graduate of Brown University and a former salesman in hospital equipment, has been selected to fill the post of Unit Manager for Palmer. In addition to providing supervision for the Unit Secretaries, he is responsible for the supplies and equipment used in the building. This includes making out an inventory, adding and deleting supplies, and evaluating requests for new equipment. Mr. Breda will serve as the intermediary between the serv-

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Holy Week Services

MAUNDY THURSDAY

March 26 at 7 p.m. Services will be conducted by Deaconess student nurses.

EASTER SUNDAY

March 29 at 9:30 a.m.

Both services will be approximately 30 minutes long so patients may attend without becoming too tired. Chaplain Ralph A. Curtis will be in charge of the services in the Arthur T. Dooley Chapel.

Master Medical PLAN

The votes were cast. A count was taken. And Deaconess employees elected to extend the Basic Blue Cross-Blue Shield coverage to include the Master Medical Plan providing up to $50,000 in additional benefits for each covered member or dependent.

The cost per individual is 50¢ or $2 per family — deducted from your paycheck weekly. If you elected to remain with Plan B, there will continue to be no charge. (If you have any questions about your status with Blue Cross-Blue Shield, call Miss Phyllis Baker, x400.)

The Master Medical Plan extends many of the existing benefits offered by Plan B and provides coverage in new areas. The new plan fully covers hospital room and board in a semiprivate room for an unlimited number of days in a general hospital and for 60 days in a mental hospital. Physician's services for hospitalized patients were partially covered according to a fee-paid schedule under Plan B. According to Master Medical, Massachusetts participating physicians accept payments for covered services as full payment in most cases regardless of your income. The new plan is a boon to hospitalized maternity patients. Coverage has been extended from a maximum of $195 under Plan B, to include regular hospital and physician's benefits as offered for a routine admittance. This benefit also includes the nursery fee and pre- and post- natal care according to the usual and customary charge.

For non-hospitalized patients, Plan B benefits were very restricted and provided full coverage only for hospital emergency room care and accident X-ray charges. Master Medical provides full coverage for special services used to diagnose or treat a disease or injury (except services related to pregnancy, birth control, sterility, routine physical, and a limit of $300 for psychiatric care.) Plan B provided no coverage for physician's services to non-hospitalized patients. Under the new plan full coverage is based upon the usual and customary charges for care in the home, hospital outpatient department, or physician's office for surgical services, diagnostic X-ray and laboratory services and radiation therapy except when these services are related to birth control or routine physical examinations. Master Medical provides either full or partial coverage to non-hospitalized patients with prolonged illness conditions or other conditions for the following health services: physician's care, prescription drugs, visiting nurse, appliance rental, physical therapy, appliance purchase, ambulance service to or from the hospital, private duty registered nursing, extended care facility (room and board), nursing home (room and board), and coordinated home health care.

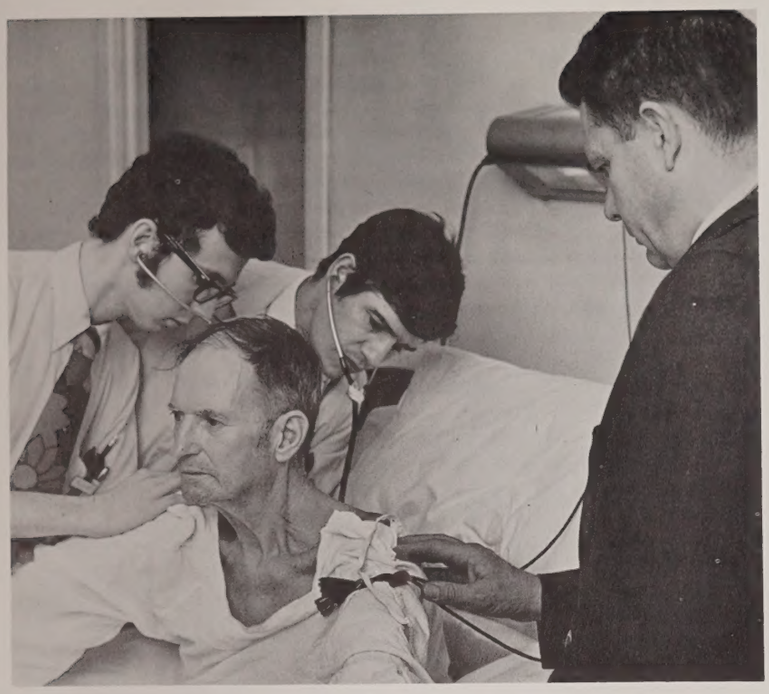
A new benefit included in the Master Medical Plan provides ambulatory psychiatric coverage. Benefits totaling a maximum of $1400 per patient in a 24 consecutive month period are evenly divided for physician's services and services in the outpatient department of a hospital or any recognized mental health facility.

Gremlins Visit Patient Service

William Branson
Manager
Patient Service Department

A crafty crew of gremlins paid a visit to the Patient Service Department Feb. 27 and left a trail of evidence discovered by Bill Branson when he arrived for work that morning. An aromatic ball of provolone cheese topped with a crown was sitting on Bill's desk next to a sign, "Under New Management." The "cheese" was a congratulatory gift to Bill from all the "mice" in Patient Service on his promotion to Manager of the Patient Service Department.

Bill served as Assistant Patient Service Manager for the past five years until Milton Nelson's retirement from the post of Manager last month. He arrived at the Deaconess in 1965 after graduating from Bentley College in Boston with a background of studies in accounting and finance.

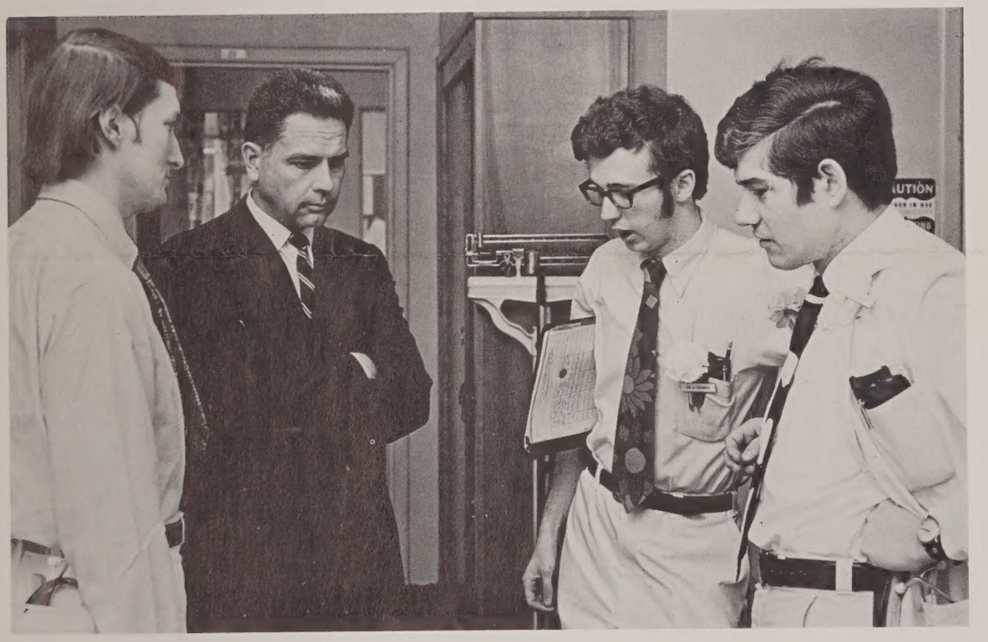


A Year of Learning No Textbook Can Provide

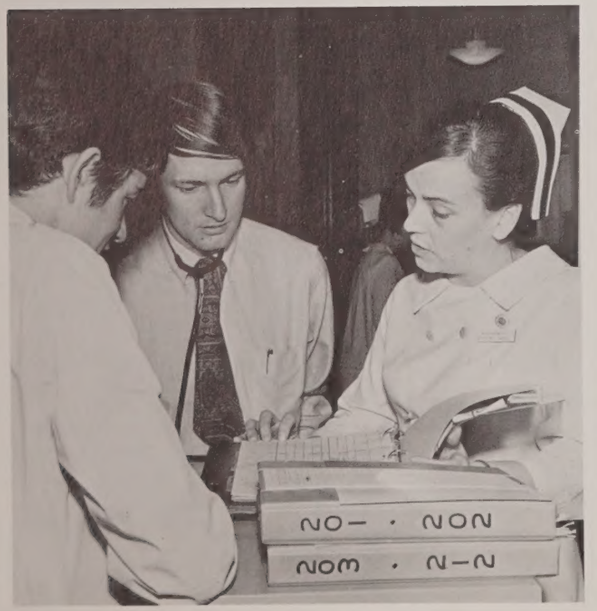
The Intern

You've been watching Ben Casey, Dr. Kildare and Marcus Welby and you think that's the way it is. Ask any intern and he'll tell you about the blood, sweat and tears behind the facade of glamour television projects. An intern's day is never a nine to five job. He has been on duty all night long and has snatched only three to four hours of interrupted sleep. He has pulled himself out of a warm comfortable bed in the hospital sleep-room several times during the night to go to the bedside of a young woman dying of leukemia or to examine a man who has come into the Observation Unit complaining of chest pains. He runs down to the cafeteria at 7:30 a.m. for morning report and gobbles down whatever breakfast he can, while he discusses with the other interns and residents the problems that have come up during the night and those that may have to be faced that day. He informs a fellow intern that one of his patients had a heart attack during the night and is now doing well in the Coronary Care Unit and will remain there for at least several days. After most potential problems have been covered, the intern heads for rounds on his floor — the Lyman Hoyt Unit on Deaconess II.

Before the interns and resident see their first patient, an elderly man with lung cancer, they review his laboratory results from the previous day and the notes made by his private physician. When examined by the doctors, the patient — a two pack a day smoker for twenty years — complains of increasing shortness of breath. He is advised that he has excessive fluid in his chest and will feel better once the fluid is removed. They proceed on to the next bed occupied by a young man hospitalized for one week with pneumonia. Upon examination, the intern finds the patient's lungs to be free of evidence of infection. He discusses the plans with the original referring physician and then tells the patient he is well enough to go home, but instructs him to continue antibiotics for several days. Rounds move on until the interns and the resident have seen the 24 patients on the floor. Then at 10 a.m. they are joined by a visiting staff physician, who discusses with the house staff the new and the seriously ill patients. Through this exchange of questions and ideas with the many staff physicians who actively participate in intern instruction and ward teaching, the intern absorbs precious medical insight that only experience can provide.



Upper left, Dr. John Lochner, intern (left) and Dr. George Reidler, resident (center), examine a patient while Dr. Laurence P. Cloud, Assistant in Medicine, looks on. Upper right, Dr. David Mosher, intern, Dr. Cloud, Dr. Lochner and Dr. Reidler discuss a patient's progress. Lower left, Dr. Reidler and Dr. Mosher confer with Assistant Head Nurse Diana Knowles about a patient's medication. Lower right, Dr. Reidler converses with a patient about his preparations to leave the hospital.



The intern grabs a quick sandwich and cup of coffee before attending the Chief Resident's conference, where a fellow intern presents for discussion among the house staff a newly diagnosed case of mycoses fungoides. At 1 p.m. he is notified by a staff physician that an elderly woman, in what appears to be severe diabetic reaction, is coming into the Observation Unit. The intern reviews her past hospital history and becomes acquainted with any chronic problems she might have. As soon as she is brought in, the intern calls for an immediate blood sugar test. The amount of sugar in her blood stream is low, indicating that she has probably taken too much insulin. The intern and nurses promptly administer a dextrose intravenous and bring her reaction under control. The intern examines the woman to see if she has any other problems which might have caused the reaction.

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INTERN

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After the peak of the emergency is over, the intern then contacts the referring doctor and discusses his treatment of the patient with him. They talk over procedural methods, and the intern learns from the more experienced doctor how he might improve his treatment of the patient. The referring doctor is also able to fill the intern in on the psychological and family background of the patient. The elderly woman has been depressed and withdrawn lately due to family problems; she has been absentminded and careless about taking her medications. She may have repeated her insulin dosage without realizing what she had done. Orders are then written, all the necessary paper work is completed, and she is discharged from the Observation Unit. The presence of an intern on duty 24 hours a day insures immediate examination, diagnosis and treatment of a patient when the patient's regular physician is unavailable at the moment.

The fast pace of the intern's day seldom lets up as he is paged to see the leukemia patient on Deaconess II, and then notified that another patient is being sent into the Observation Unit, this time with pulmonary edema. During the course of the afternoon, the intern performs a bone marrow biopsy on the leukemia patient by taking a specimen of tissue from the pelvic bone in order to decide the proper course of therapy for the patient. The specimen is prepared in the Hematology Laboratory, and then viewed under a microscope to determine the stage of the patient's illness.

Today, three new patients are being admitted to Deaconess II. A young man was brought in to the Observation Unit earlier with diabetic acidosis and his condition found serious enough for his admission to the floor. A young woman with a suspected kidney disease and a middle-aged man suffering from hepatitis were also admitted. The intern completes a thorough medical history and physical on each of these patients.

The intern's day does not end at 5 p.m. He remains at the Hospital until his work is finished. Some weeks he puts in a total of 90 hours. Before going off duty, he reviews the condition of his patients with the house officers who will be on duty that night, discussing all major problems that might arise.

When the intern's day at the Hospital has ended, he does not leave medicine behind him when he goes home. Tonight he will search his personal medical library and collection of journals in an effort to find the most recent information on the treatment of clinical hepatitis. With eight years of study and hard work behind him, he will spend one year at the hectic intern pace absorbing knowledge that classroom experience can't provide. Then comes the beginning of many years of training as a resident before he becomes an independent practicing physician.

Mr. Nelson Heads For Hawaii Following Retirement

Above, Mr. Richard E. Lee, Director, presents a model ocean liner containing financial contributions from employees to Mr. Nelson and his wife while Mr. R. D. Lowry, Executive Vice President, look on. Right, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson display the dolls depicting the leisure of retirement they look forward to.

Old times were rehashed and humorous stories exchanged when Hospital Department Heads gathered at the Brae Burn Country Club Feb. 26 for a retirement dinner honoring Mr. Milton Nelson, Patient Service Manager.

Mr. Nelson and his wife Isabella were surprised with the gift of a portable color television set. At a tea held the previous day in Harris Hall, Hospital employees drifted in during the afternoon to wish the Nelsons an enjoyable retirement. Mr. Richard E. Lee, Director, presented them with a model ocean liner containing financial contributions from employees.

A four-week vacation in Hawaii followed the round of retirement parties for the couple. Traveling is foremost on their agenda of plans with several other trips anticipated in the future. The Nelsons live in Westwood and also own a cottage in Falmouth on the Cape where they spend many leisurely days visiting the nearby islands in their cabin cruiser, "Mimi."

Mr. Nelson is a graduate of Boston University's College of Business Administration. After serving out a stint with the Army during World War II, he worked for the Public Loan Company for 15 years. He arrived at the Deaconess in 1951 with a solid background in finance to become Credit Manager. When this department was combined with the admitting and business functions to form the Patient Service Department in 1965, Mr. Nelson was appointed to the position of Manager.

A recognized authority in the field of credit management, he received an Achievement Award presented by the International Consumer Credit Association in 1967 and was given the William J. Starr Award in 1962 by the Consumer Credit Executives Association of Greater Boston.

Mr. Nelson served as President and Director of the Deaconess Alpha Credit Union. He has held the position of President of the Hospital Credit Association of New England, the Consumer Credit Executives Association of Greater Boston, New England Credit Grantors, and the International Consumer Credit Association.

Mr. Nelson's many friends at the Deaconess will miss him, but there is no doubt that his retirement days will be filled with only good times.

POPS

Hold the evening of May 1 open for an enjoyable program of popular and classical music provided by Arthur Fiedler conducting the Deaconess Night at the Pops. This year marks the thirtieth year the Friends of the Deaconess have sponsored their Night at the Pops to raise money for the School of Nursing. Scheduled for 8:30 at Symphony Hall, the Pops is a sure hit for all music lovers.

Co-chairmen for the event are Mrs. Elton Watkins Jr. and Mrs. S. St. John Morgan. Tables for five at $25, $35, and $40 and single seats at $5, $7, and $8 may be reserved by writing Mrs. S. St. John Morgan, Longwood Towers, 20 Chapel St., Brookline, Mass. 02146.

Don't miss this unforgettable evening of music entertainment!

Doctors doings

Dr. William P. Beetham, Jr., Internal Medicine, has been invited to give the George M. Boyer Memorial Lecture before the Medical and Chirurgical Faculty of Maryland, April 3, in Baltimore. His subject will be the "Physical Examination of the Joints — A Challenge."

Dr. David P. Boyd, Surgery, spoke on "Sarcoidosis" January 8 at the Mercy Hospital, Springfield, Massachusetts.

Dr. Robert F. Bradley, Internal Medicine, lectured on "Realistic Goals in Diabetes Therapy and Their Relationship to Complications" and was a panelist on "The Treatment of Diabetic Retinopathy" at the 17th Post-Graduate Course of the ADA Clinical Conference, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Jan. 22. On March 19, Dr. Bradley delivered a lecture to the American College of Physicians at the Cleveland Clinic, Ohio entitled "Advances in the Treatment of Diabetic Retinopathy." Dr. Bradley will speak on this same topic to the North Carolina Diabetes Association, April 3 at the Bowman-Gray School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Dr. A. Richard Christlieb, Internal Medicine, published an article in the December, 1969 *American Journal of Medicine* on the subject of hypertension entitled "Renal Vein Renin Activity in the Prognosis of Surgery for Renovascular Hypertension."

Dr. Bentley P. Colcock, Lahey Clinic, lectured on "Crohn's Disease"

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DOCTORS DOINGS

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at the Springfield Hospital Medical Center Jan. 17. He attended the Sectional Meeting of the American College of Surgeons in Portland, Oregon, Feb. 2-3. He was a Visiting Professor at the University of Alabama Medical Center in Birmingham Feb. 4-7. On Feb. 9 he spoke on "The Role of Surgery in Thyroid Disease" at the Washington Academy of Surgery. He was recently elected President of the New England Surgical Society and Secretary of the Board of Governors of the American College of Surgeons.

Dr. Bradley E. Copeland, Pathology, presented a paper on "The Practical Use of the Regional Quality Control Program in the Individual Laboratory" at the Symposium on Regional Quality Control, Lenox Hill Hospital, New York City, Jan. 29. At the Interim meeting of the American Society of Clinical Pathologists in Houston, Texas, Feb. 13, he delivered a paper entitled "The Diagnostic Criteria for Entamoeba Histolytica — A Dilemma."

Drs. H. Howard Goldstein and William B. Hadley, Internal Medicine, presented the Joslin Diabetes Foundation Exhibit on Investigative Therapy of Diabetic Retinopathy at the 1970 Annual Meeting of the United States Public Health Service Professional Associations, in Washington, D. C., March 30 - April 2.

Dr. David Johnston, Diagnostic Radiology, was elected to Fellowship in the American College of Radiology.

Dr. Leo P. Krall, Internal Medicine, will lecture at a Diabetes Symposium at the invitation of the Australian Endocrine Society April 15-18, followed by lectures at the University of Auckland, New Zealand, the following week.

Dr. George Nichols, Jr., Director of Cancer Research Institute, attended a lecture-discussion series on "Interrelations of Aging and Disease" at Battelle Seattle Research Center, in Seattle, Washington, March 9-11, where he delivered a lecture entitled "Bone Metabolism, Aging, and Osteoporosis." He presented a paper on "Bone Resorption and Calcium Homeostasis: One Process or Two?" at the Seventh European Symposium on Calcified Tissues, in Montecatini Terme, Italy.

Dr. Richard Oberfield, Internal Medicine, was awarded a Public Health Service Grant as Program Director for a chemotherapy course entitled "Protracted Cancer Chemotherapy by Ambulatory Arterial Infusion." He presented a lecture on "The Dying Patient" at Tufts Medical School, Jan. 8. On Feb. 28 he spoke on "Present Status of Arterial Infusion Chemotherapy for Liver Cancer" at Lemmuel-Shattuck Hospital. He will be attending lectures and meetings as a Clinical Investigator in London, England; Brussels, Belgium; Bonn, Germany; and Paris, France.

Dr. Cornelius E. Sedgwick, Chairman of the Department of Surgery, lectured on "The Problem of Esophageal Varices" and "Management of Tumors of the Thyroid" at the Puerto Rico Chapter of the American College of Surgeons, San Juan, Puerto Rico, Feb. 25-26.

Dr. Albert Sheffer, Allergy and Dermatology, was a Guest Examiner for the Allergy Sub-Specialty Board of Internal Medicine in Buffalo, N. Y., March 13-14.

Dr. Sydney Shore, Otolaryngology, spoke on "ENT Problems in Family Practice" at the Post-Graduate Medical Institute in Boston, Feb. 1.

Dr. John W. Strieder, Thoracic Surgery, published an article on Cardiac Trauma in *Management of Thoracic Injuries,* Dec., 1969.

Dr. Robert E. Wise, Diagnostic Radiology, was a Visiting Professor of Radiology at the University of Miami, Fla., March 2-3. He has been appointed Clinical Professor of Radiology, Boston University, School of Medicine.

Dr. Clement Yahia, Obstetrics and Gynecology, lectured to the International Fertility Association Group on "Stein-Leventhal Syndrome," in Puerto Rico, Jan. 15.

A Compliment From A Patient

I was in the Deaconess for three days last week and I just wanted to let you know that I found the Hospital certainly living up to its splendid reputation.

The nurses were so nice. Because of the noise from drilling Miss Matthews moved me to an attractive quiet one which certainly made a big difference. The meals were good, nice and hot. I was also impressed with how easy every thing was made on entering and leaving the Hospital.

I would like to compliment all of you who are responsible and thank you for making my stay an easy, pleasant one.

Circulation Soars

PULSE has been growing in leaps and bounds! Our circulation now exceeds 4500. Due to this expansion we have shifted to a computerized method of mailing PULSE to your home. Please bear with us if the change-over has been an inconvenience.

If you wish to correct your mailing address, fill out the form below and return it to the Public Relations Department.

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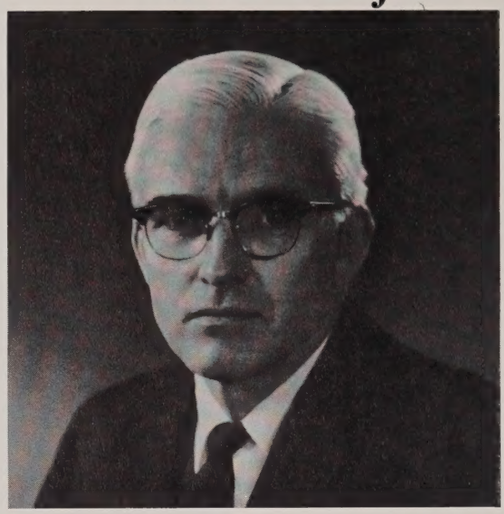
Dr. Woods Serves Two Periods With Project HOPE



Dr. Francis M. Woods, a Thoracic Surgeon at the Overholt Clinic, has served two periods with the Project HOPE — a people-to-people program financed by private donations in this country and intended to be a program fostering international good will and understanding through health projects. He recently published an article entitled "The Challenge of the Ship HOPE" in the January issue of the *Massachusetts Physician.*

People in this country have demonstrated for generations a desire to help people in less fortunate countries through medical projects, Dr. Woods writes. "A major problem is how to improve and change the methods of physicians, nurses and paramedical workers without hurting their feelings. They are understandably sensitive to outsiders who are put in the position of telling them how their own work should be done." The HOPE endeavors to visit a needy country for approximately a year at a time. The medical personnel come in rotating teams for two months at a time. The nurses and other paramedical personnel constitute the full-time staff and go for the full year. This makes it possible to utilize the services of our reservoir of medical talent, most of whom could not take a year off from their regular work.

Since 1960 the Project has visited Peru, Equador, Guinea, Nicaragua, Colombia and Ceylon and is this year in Tunisia. The Ship serves as an example of a well-organized general hospital and the Staff works both on the Ship and in the hospitals and clinics of the country being visited. A country is only visited when a specific invitation comes from that country.

Dr. Woods felt that his greatest reward from both periods of service with the Ship HOPE came after the period of service when two doctors with whom he had worked visited Boston to see medicine in action here. In one case it was a young thoracic surgeon from Nicaragua and in the other it was the Dean of the Medical School at Kandy, Ceylon. The latter was impressed particularly with the helpful and friendly discussions and criticism of physicians, residents and students working together.

The incoming president of the Alpha Credit Union, Mr. Philip Pacella (center), is surrounded by former presidents (from left to right) Mr. Charles Schraub, Mr. Milton Nelson, Mr. Donald Sabine, and Mr. W. Clifford Fisher.

SERVICE COORDINATION

(*Continued from Page* 1)

ice departments in the hospital and the nursing units, handling any problems that might arise. He will assist with special administrative projects such as the closing and opening of units and studies to determine the requirements of a nursing unit. A future responsibility will be the development and control of the budget for Palmer.

The new streamlined program provides more efficient use of the Unit Secretary's time. She is able to concentrate more of her time on transcribing doctors' orders, while the job of communicating with the various service departments such as Housekeeping, Laundry, or Dietary is left to the Unit Manager. Another timesaver for the Unit Secretary is the introduction of computer print-outs listing patient name and location on the TPR Worksheet and Diet Memo, in addition to a Daily Patient Classification sheet used to categorize the level of care required for each patient. Previously these lists were prepared in longhand by the Unit Hostess.

There are now four Unit Secretaries servicing three floors in Palmer. One of these will be used as a floater on a rotational basis. She will be assigned by the Unit Manager to assist another Unit Secretary or to help out with specific tasks such as inventory and errands.

As the first Unit Manager at the Deaconess, Mr. Breda will pave the way for additional Unit Managers and the eventual conversion of the Unit Management program throughout the Hospital. He arrived at the Deaconess in January, and after completing the transcribing course and getting the feel of hospital routine he officially began his duties as Unit Manager March 16. He lives with his wife and six-year old son in Needham.

Currency Lecture Slated

In response to a request made by the Friends of the Deaconess, Training Coordination is sponsoring a training event on *The Identification of Counterfeit Currency*. Although the one hour session is planned for those who are in cashier or sales positions, anyone may attend. No advance registration is needed.

The session will be held in Joslin Auditorium, April 7, at 2 p.m. A member of the staff of the National Shawmut Bank will conduct the event. If you have any questions concerning the event, please call Miss Zelia Gorman, ext. 577.

Kindness Repaid

One act of kindness was recently followed by another at the Deaconess Hospital. A few years ago when one of our staff nurses entered the Deaconess Nursing School, part of the financial burden of her education was eased when the Friends of the Deaconess awarded her a scholarship. This kindness was repaid when Mrs. Lauriston Ward Jr., President of the Friends, received a substantial check from this girl with the request that it be returned to the Scholarship Fund to assist another student in her goal to become a nurse.

Don't Let It Happen To You!
Join The
ALPHA CREDIT UNION

NEW LIBRARY BOOKS

FICTION:

Mr. Sammler's Planet
Saul Bellow. The author of *Herzog* writes a philosophical tale on the plight of contemporary man.

The Protege
Charlotte Armstrong. Suspense and mystery result when a widow takes home a young stranger who decides he doesn't want to leave.

The Common Pasture
Hilary Masters. A suspenseful parable of business and the power of wealth to corrupt.

Island Doctor
Isabel Cabot. A story of romance and competition in the medical profession.

The Stately Home Murder
Catherine Aird. (Mystery)

The Marigold Field
Diane Pearson. Struggle of the English working class at the turn of the century.

NONFICTION:

The Collapse of The Third Republic
William L. Shirer. A detailed account of the fall of France in 1940.

Life and Death of the Salt Marsh
John and Mildred Teal. How salt marshes have contributed to man, and how ruthlessly man is destroying them.

Houdini: The Untold Story
Milbourne Christopher. The biography of the famous magician and escape article.

A Roomful of Hovings and Other Profiles
John McPhee. A collection of miniature biographies of a diverse and interesting group of men.

Still Climbing

Year-End Appeal

Tops $60,000

Over 750 former patients and friends of the Deaconess have already responded to the 1969 Year-End Appeal bringing in a total of $59,803.85 as of March 17, 1970. (This amount does not include bequests or other special gifts.)

Mr. Maurice Fremont-Smith, Director of Development, and Mr. William B. Tyler, Trustee and Chairman of the Appeal, report a remarkable 11% return from those solicited. The unusual generosity of Deaconess Hospital donors is reflected in a greater amount per donor (approximately $80) than any other known hospital in the Boston area.

The 1969 Appeal, the second formal year-end appeal in Deaconess history, has almost doubled in amount since 1968 and is still climbing.

Cancer Symposium To Hold Second Day In Series

The first in a series of three day-long symposia on the management of the patient with cancer was presented March 18 to an audience of nurses from Massachusetts hospitals. The program for the second day in the series is as follows:

WEDNEDAY, APRIL 15, 1970

"Specific Problems in Nursing Management."

Welcome: Miss Ellen D. Howland, R.N., Director of Nursing, New England Deaconess Hospital.

9:00-10:30 **Catheter Care**

Robert E. Desautels, M.D., Urologist, New England Deaconess Hospital.

Coffee

11:00-12:30 **Tracheostomy**

(Member, Deaconess Staff. To be announced.)

Luncheon

1:30-3:30 **Stomas**

John L. Rowbotham, M.D. Medical Director, Stoma Rehabilitation Clinic. Members of the Stoma Clinic Staff.

(The program for the third and final symposium in the series will be published in the April issue of PULSE.)

Suggestion Committee

Miss Gloria D. Hayes, Nursing, and Mr. Roger G. Peterson, Laundry, have been appointed to three-year terms on the Suggestion Committee beginning April 1, 1970. They replace Mr. Joseph E. Doherty, Housekeeping, and Miss Florence A. McCarthy, Nursing. Mr. Doherty served a three-year term while Miss McCarthy last August filled Mrs. Edith O. Wetterlow's unexpired term.

PROFILE: Sara Osborne

Freckle-faced Sara Osborne holds the distinction of being Senior Charge Nurse of the only hospital Foot Room in the country. Working with six members of the Deaconess medical staff, Sara sees over 30 diabetic patients a day suffering from foot problems that are commonly associated with the disease.

About 80 percent of the patients who are admitted to the hospital for foot infections or gangrene undergo surgery involving amputation of a toe, several toes, or a leg. Sara, assisted by two Foot Room nurses, is faced with the monumental task of rehabilitating these patients.

"No one looks forward to an amputation," she said. "Usually their outlook is pessimistic; they're against the world and the doctors and nurses who are treating them. We urge them to think positively about the relief from the pain of infection an amputation will bring and the renewed ability to walk again with an artificial leg. When they have made up their minds to accept the amputation, they begin asking questions like how long surgery will take, how much pain there will be following the operation, and how much they will be able to do for themselves with an artificial limb."

Sara arranges for a physiotherapist to visit the patient before surgery. Four to five days following surgery she teaches him how to use a walker and how to do the various exercises necessary to strengthen his muscles. Patients who have undergone leg amputations are measured for an artificial leg five to seven days after surgery, and the leg is put on sometimes as early as two weeks after surgery.

The "team approach" is used in the treatment of foot problems. Sara's day begins by making rounds with the doctors. She removes the dressings, discusses with the doctor how the patient is progressing and what new activities he is permitted to do. She applies a new dressing — an art requiring a good deal of finesse as foot dressings have a way of coming off. Sara meets with the other Foot Room nurses once a day to talk over the best approach for each patient because not every patient accepts surgery the same way. Many older patients may require special attention if other health problems are involved, such as a heart condition, or bad eyesight or hearing. If necessary, Sara arranges for a social worker to aid the patient in the rehabilitative process. Her job doesn't end when the patient leaves the hospital. If the patient is returning home, Sara puts in a request for a visiting nurse to see him at home.

Head Foot Room Nurse Sara Osborne applies a new dressing to the foot of a patient who is recovering from surgery.

The challenge of rehabilitating a patient following surgery is a tough one calling for patience and perseverance. "We get 79-year-old patients who tell us they would rather die than go through surgery for an amputation," she said, "but they walk out on a new leg and leave us in a cloud of dust." Sara is particularly proud of one patient who was admitted for a below the knee amputation — a procedure requiring lengthy rehabilitation. He weighed in at 300 pounds before surgery. After surgery he lost 100 pounds and is now back driving a truck.

Sara became Senior Charge Nurse in the Foot Room in November 1968 after deciding she wanted to go into a more specialized area of nursing. The area she picked is so unique that there are no textbooks on feet or special courses to take for preparation. "On the job training" takes from four to six months before a Foot Room nurse is accustomed to the doctors, the routine, and what to do for certain conditions.

Sara graduated from Lasell Junior College, School of Nursing in 1965 and began working at the Deaconess the day after graduation. Prior to becoming a Foot Room nurse, she worked as a staff nurse on Palmer 2, Deaconess 3, and Palmer 3. When she's not headed for the ski slopes in the winter or the beach in the summer, she's busy planning her next traveling adventure. She toured southern Europe in 1966 and has a trip to northern Europe including Russia and Germany planned for the spring.

Marriages

Miss Jean Doherty, Nursing, to Mr. Alan R. Ball on November 22.

Miss Elizabeth Hall, graduate of the School of Nursing and staff nurse, to Mr. Richard Charbonnier of Roxbury on October 31.

Miss Marsha Ann Smith, graduate of the School of Nursing and staff nurse, to Mr. Robert L. Gleason, a financial analyst with Carter Ink Co. and associate of Bennett and Gleason Co., both in Cambridge.

Engagements

Miss Jean Marie Beaujean, New England Deaconess Hospital student nurse, to Mr. James Cox, a seaman in the Navy.

Miss Valeri J. Bordieri, surgical technician, to Mr. Joseph Giordano, an English teacher at Weldon Vocational High School. An April 11 wedding is planned.

Miss Cheryl Lynne Matthews, Hematology, to Mr. Stephen Morrell, graduate of Tufts University and currently serving in the Navy. An April wedding is planned.

Miss Diane Midgette, student operating room technician, to Mr. Gerald L. Cross, a student at Northeastern University. An early September wedding is planned.

Miss Joan Basile, Assistant Head Nurse, to Mr. William Lutheran of Arlington, Mass.

Miss Ann Marie Chase, a student in the School of Nursing, to Mr. Andrew Bryan Loman, a senior at Northeastern University.

Miss Jane Connelly, a medical secretary, to Mr. Frank S. Colagiovanni of Jamaica Plain.

Miss Charlotte Cranford, a senior in the School of Nursing, to Mr. Craig N. Clive, a student at the University of Bridgeport, Connecticut.

Miss Sharon Ann Gottfried, laboratory technician, to Mr. Robert Rook, a civil engineer with the Yunits Engineering Co., Inc., Holbrook.

Miss Linda Hershfeld, medical technology student, to Mr. Barry L. Rubinson, an employee of Data Resources Inc., Lexington.

Miss Sallyann Sheehan, a medical secretary in Pathology, to Mr. William J. Gaudaitis.

New England Deaconess Hospital
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pulse

The New England Deaconess Hospital Complex, including the Medical Office Building at One Ten Francis Street, Lahey and Overholt Thoracic Clinics, the Joslin Diabetes Foundation, Inc., the Cancer Research Institute and the Shields Warren Radiation Laboratory, is internationally known for diagnosis, treatment and research in general medicine, brain and chest surgery, cancer and diabetes.

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THE INTERN, see story and pictures on pages two and three.

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